Best Available Copy

IN THE UNITED BURNES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

ARTY.'S DOCKET: NREL/96-48

Applicant: Timothy A. Gessert

ssert)

Serial No.:

08/937,721

) Group Art: 1741) Examiner: S. Mulpuri

Filing Date:

September 25, 1997

Title:

ION-BEAM TREATMENT TO

PREPARE SURFACES OF

P-CdTe FILMS

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Honorable Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

In advance of prosecution, and before this application is taken up for examination on the merits, please amend the application as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS

1. (Twice Amended) A dry process for making a low-resistance electrical contact between a metal and a layer of polycrystalline p-type CdTe surface by ion beam processing comprising:

a) placing a CdC/CdTe device having a polycrystalline p-type CdTe into a chamber and evacuating said chamber to create a vacuum;

b) orientating the <u>polycrystalline</u> p-CdTe side of the CDs/CdTe device to face apparatus capable of generating Ar atoms

1

RECEIVED

NOV 04 1999